

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently amended) A semiconductor futures exchange system comprising:
a virtual semiconductor fabrication facility (virtual fab) which provides information regarding fabrication of semiconductor devices ~~in the virtual fab, the virtual fab comprising at least one communications interface with a semiconductor foundry and a plurality of manufacturing capacity contracts~~; and

~~a semiconductor futures exchange coupled to the virtual fab adapted to receive trade the information, the semiconductor futures exchange offering semiconductor futures for sale based on the information. semiconductor manufacturing capacity futures based on the plurality of manufacturing capacity contracts.~~

2. Canceled

3. (Currently amended) The semiconductor futures exchange system of claim 1 wherein the information includes ~~the virtual fab further comprises a work in progress (WIP) reporting system of the for the~~ virtual semiconductor fabrication facility.

4. Canceled

5. Canceled

6. (Previously presented) The semiconductor futures exchange system of claim 1 further comprising at least one entity adapted for communicating between a computer system associated with the semiconductor futures exchange and a computer system associated with the virtual

semiconductor fabrication facility.

7. (Previously presented) The semiconductor futures exchange system of claim 1 further comprising a manufacturing executing system used to facilitate production in the virtual semiconductor fabrication facility.
8. (Previously presented) The semiconductor futures exchange system of claim 1 further comprising at least one entity associated with a specific process within the virtual semiconductor fabrication facility.
9. (Previously presented) The semiconductor futures exchange system of claim 1 further comprising at least one entity adapted for communicating between a computer system associated with an external service provider and a computer system associated with the semiconductor futures exchange.
10. (Currently amended) The semiconductor futures exchange system of claim 9, wherein the external service provider is computer system associated with the semiconductor futures exchange is adapted to be accessed by an investor.
11. (Currently amended) The semiconductor futures exchange system of claim 9, wherein the external service provider is computer system associated with the semiconductor futures exchange is adapted to be accessed by a customer.
12. (Currently amended) The semiconductor futures exchange system of claim 9, wherein the external service provider is computer system associated with the semiconductor futures exchange is adapted to be accessed by a trader.

13. (Previously presented) The semiconductor futures exchange system of claim 1, wherein the virtual semiconductor fabrication facility performs a plurality of processes associated with semiconductor fabrication.

14. Canceled

15. (Currently amended) The semiconductor futures exchange system of claim 1 wherein the semiconductor futures exchange interacts is adapted to interact with a plurality of traders.

16. (Currently amended) A method of exchanging semiconductor futures comprising:
providing a semiconductor futures exchange;
coupling the semiconductor futures change exchange to a virtual fab, wherein the virtual fab comprises at least one communications interface with a semiconductor foundry and a plurality of manufacturing capacity contracts; and
interacting with the semiconductor futures exchange through the virtual fab to trade semiconductor manufacturing capacity futures based on the plurality of manufacturing capacity capacity contracts.

17. Canceled

18. Canceled

19. (Currently amended) The method of claim 16 wherein the semiconductor futures exchange is adapted to interact with a customer interacts with the futures exchange.

20. (Currently amended) The method of claim 16 wherein the semiconductor futures exchange is adapted to interact with an investor a investor interacts with the futures exchange.

21. (Currently amended) The method of claim 16 wherein the semiconductor futures exchange is adapted to interact with a trader interacts with the futures exchange.
22. (Previously presented) The method of claim 16 wherein the virtual fab includes a plurality of entities.
23. (Previously presented) The method of claim 16 wherein the semiconductor futures exchange interfaces via the virtual fab with entities internal to and external to the virtual fab.
24. Canceled
25. (Currently amended) The system of claim 24 method of claim 16 wherein the semiconductor capacity futures exchange includes a trade processor for executing trades of the semiconductor manufacturing capacity futures contracts through a market established by the semiconductor futures exchange.